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THE NICK THIMMESCH COLUMN

RELEASE DATE: Tuesday, November 18, 1975

SEN. CHURCH, ALL POLITICIANS AREN'T UNTRUSTWORTHY

by Nick Thimmesch

(c) 1975, Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON--It's hard to buy Sen. Frank Church's  
(D-Ida.) argument that George Bush, our man in Peking, should  
not become CIA director simply because he's a politician and  
can't be trusted to perform with true independence.

Sen. Church, a politician, is in charge of the  
investigation of the CIA and loudly proclaims (ital) his (unital)  
independence. Moreover, Church has ambitions to become  
President; and in that office, as a politician, he would have  
final authority over the CIA. Therefore, could Church be  
trusted by his own standard?

The question about Bush should be whether he is  
qualified to run our nation's top intelligence agency, and  
whether he has the character and reputation to perform  
independent of political considerations.

(Paragraph continues)